Young Generals Need Time

With only 10 letterman returning William Campbell will have a host of freshman and sophomores in the starting lineup when the Seminole District football season opens Sept. 6 and new head coach Ronnie Cox figures they will need some time to mature.

"Our young players have to come around to plug the gaps, both offensively and defensively," Cox says, "Right now we are concentrating on our first game. We are not even considering the second game of the season. We need time to grow and we will have to play one game at a time.

Cox is fortunate that the Generals do not open when all the other teams in the district see action Friday night. William Campbell has an open date for the first week of the season, which will allow them another week of preparation before they meet Appomattox in its season opener.

Cox is returning to the helm of the Generals after an absence of five years. The 10 year coaching veteran led the Generals to two district crowns beofre leaving for a coaching post in Alabama. His most recent coaching duties saw him as an assistant if they are to be successful in a quest for a Seminole District title.

Cox will probably have the Generals in a split "T" offense with either Allen Harper of Kip Burch at quarterback and William Mitchell and Alvin Younger at running back. Other candidates for the running back post are Mike Marstin, Ronnie Chambers, Cornelius Adams Buddy Garrett and Andy Carr.

Ricky Davis or Charles White will man the wingback position while George Smith, Boo Younger and Tony Herndon are all fighting fore starting assignments at end.

Paul Ginther and Wayne Clayhrock are battling for the center slot and six players are waging a battle for the tackle positions.

Seniors Danny Fallin and Sam Baker seem to have the inside track, but they are being pushed hard by Varney Riddle, a junior, and sophomores Glenn Epperson, Ricky Trent and Matt Mosby.

Mike Coates and Benny Nash are trying to nail down guard posts, but Jimmy Adams, Jim Nichol and Bill Hodges are making their presence felt.

At least five or six of the offensive starters will also see duty on the defensive unit. Cox says, "we don't have the depth or the size we would like to have, but we have 40 players on the junior varsity squad. I don't believe in rebuilding years. I just want to put my best football players on the field.

Ronnie Cox

That is what we will do this year. Next year we could be better."

Cox continues, "Everybody in this league will be tough. We just have to get by the first game and play the second one when it comes up."

We pick the Generals to finish last in the league this year. But Ronnie Cox, Allen Tibbs and George Clark will return the winning habit to William Campbell soon.

So says the VA... BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

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E. C. Glass—Class Western District

LYNCHBURG - An old weakness which has plagued E. C. Glass football teams the past two years is cropping up again, but the Hilltoppers still figure to be the class of the tough Western District.

"We lack experience and size in our defensive backfield," says head coach John Palmer, "We have a lot of juniors there, but they have to come around this week or it could be too late."

Defensive backs with some game experience are Pat Barrett, Kenny Burns and Willie Moseley while Chip Lundy, Chad Colmore, Rick Gilbert, Carlton Jones, Mike Spencer and Smith Fletcher are battling the veterans for a starting berth.

Otherwise the Hilltoppers show experience and depth, along with good size, as they attempt to defend the district title which they have won the past three years.

As always with a Palmer coached team, the linemen will be tough and aggresive and the linebackers quick and smart. Gary Colmore, a three year letterman will anchor the linebacking crew which includes Bernard Mitchell and Steve Taylor.

Along the line the Hilltoppers will have All-State returnee Wayne Dalton, big Glen Davis, Oscar Hill, Kenny Jackson, Denis Peper and Bill Rauh.

Jeff Morgan, Mike Moseley and Victor Southerland are vieing for a starting berth at defensive end, and Taylor often moves to the end position from his linebacking post.

Davis did an excellent job for Glass last season and the senior has added about 15 pounds to his frame, which should make him tougher to handle in the

John Palmer

middle of the line.

Assistant coach Bo Henson thinks Davis may be the best guard in the state.

The Toppers may have one of the first quarterbacks in Virginia in Robert Hamilton. The senior played a lot of football for Glass last season and has shown a lot of improvement in early drills.

Hamilton was injured in a scrimmage last week, but X-Rays showed no shoulder separation, only bursies. The talented youngster is expected to fully recover before the season opens.

Should Hamilton falter, junior Bryan Thomas is ready to step in and take over the shores. Thomas played very well in last week's scrimmage and drew praise from the coaches for his performance.

Running backs Danny Brooks and Ricky Volley give the Toppers speed, deception and power as the Toppers have almost discarded the "T" formation in favor of the wishbone.

Wally Gilbert, defensive backfield coach explains, "We need more size and experience to give the team good balance. Our defensive backs are young and small, but they have displayed hustle and desire."

The Hilltoppers should repeat as Western champions, even with the new alignment which brings state champion Patrick Henry into the circuit. Uther new schools in the Western District are William Fleming, Northside, Franklin County, Pulaski and Cave Spring. Remaining in the district are George Washington, Halifax County and Glass.

Bishops Will Be Small, Quick

Virginia Episcopal School will field one of the smallest football teams in the Virginia Prep League. The Bishops will rely on quickness and execution as they attempt to improve on last year's 4-5 mark.

Coach Mike Thornton says, "We have a good attitude toward winning. No one stands head and shoulders above anyone else. We have a good bunch of kids who have worked real hard."

Bill Lanford, a senior running back, will carry much of the Bishop's hopes. The speedy Greer, S. C. product averaged eight yards per carry last season as he gained 874 yards in 109 trips with the ball.

Tim Kirkpartick, another senior runing back, picked up 412 yards last season and is the top defensive back on the squad.

Using the veer offense, Thornton will have either Robert Goode, Ian Saur, Trip Wilson or Dick Carrington at quarterback and either Stuart Hemming or Skip Stokes at the slot back.

Thornton says the strength of the club will be overall speed and a host of young players moving up from the junior varsity which went undefeated last season.

Defensively VES will depend on Ben Moomaw to lead the charge. The 165 pound linebacker will call the defensive signals and bolster what was the second best defense in the league last season.

which brings state champion Patrick Henry into the circuit. Uther new schools in the Western District are William Fleming, Northside, Franklin County, Pulaski and Cave Spring. Remaining in the district are George Washington, Halifax County and Glass.

St. Christopher's, Randolph Macon. Woodberry Forest and Norfolk Academy all shut out the Bishops last season, but VES answered its other opponents 111-12.

Stokes will fill another linebacker slot as will John Woolard and Rick Simpson. Jim Herbert and Dick Carrington provide depth in the secondary while Rob Taylor, Bob Dolin, Billy Suhling and Goode are all expected to see action at end.

George Smythe and Mark Woodward, both seniors, will play at offensive tackle with Woodward going both ways.

The Guards will be Steve Reinhardt, Baxter Gordon and George Costes with Randy Nexson at center.

The Bishops will have some depth with Buster Vaughn at end, Jim Hunter at guard and running baCKS Will McClintic and David Thomas ready to step in if they are needed.

VES has a good shot at having a winning season, both the Bishops face an ardorous season with games in Alexandria, Front Royal, Richmond and Christ Church.

Thornton says this year's team came to school in better shape than any team he remembers. Thornton has at VES four years but the head coach last season McCue took the reigns for year.

If the Bishops can injury they should post mark this year and runner-up honors in the Virginia Prep League.

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overnors Will Play asic Football

TON - Nelson al is a tie for the Seminole ball race last 1-1 record, and Dennis Brown improve on that ar as the fundamentals.

nothing fancy in Brown says. "We to the basic ake an effort to cut mistakes and try to opponents' errors."

former Amherst coaches, played college Williams and Mary ar offensive line year at Lafayette

overnors will use a lot with senior Mike or sophomore Marty calling the signals, ahout has the inside the fullback slot with Don Wood pushing for a starting berth.

Larry Rose, Ricky Small and Steve Stevens are slated to duty as running backs. Dewey Wood, Glen Slosson, Preston Martin, Larry Awkard and Mark Gamble are battling for the starting slot back assignment.

Wilbur Durrette and Billy Brown will share the chores at Center while Vernon Reznick, William Boxley, Mark Drumheller and Jerry Wells are fighting for guard positions.

Chriss Thompson and William Myers should be the starting tackles, but Walter Miles, Hugh Watts, Elmer Glover and Chris Scott are still in the running for a berth there.

Two huge linemen will anchor the defensive unit as 6-1, 300 pound Billy Massie and 6-2, 240 pound Vince Powell will man the guard positions. Wood and Watts will hold down the defensive end slots with Reznick, Clark, Lockett and Small heading the linebacking corps.

"If we have a weakness," Brown says, "It will be in our offensive line. We lost a lot of veterans along those positions and we are lacking in depth."

The Governors boast an experienced backfield with adequate depth and have size, speed and agility along the defensive line.

Nelson County opens the season against the Seminole District's newest member, Amhrst County. Amherst is considered by many as the team to beat in the district.

Vernon Wood, John Lange, Jack Sellers, Kevin Sellers and Charles Bennett will assist Brown as the Governors make a bid for their first Seminole District football championship.

Colonels Face Tough Season

ALTAVISTA - Altvista's Colonels would like to improve on last year's 1-9 record, but the early season schedule is such that it will be difficult for them to get on the winning track.

The Colonels open against last season's Seminole District runner-up Liberty, then play Nelson County and Rustburg, two teams that tied for third in the district last year. The fourth game is against last season's district champion, Brookville.

Coach Mike Head insists that if the Colonels get through the first four games without injury they could make their presence felt over the last six games.

Only 27 gridders answered the call for the opening practice, which means that a number of the Colonels will be two-way performers.

With this in mind Head and his staff, Leonard Brown and Donnie Wilkerson, have been working on conditioning and execution. "We have a limited

Mike Head

number of plays," Head says, "and we work on perfecting them."

Head says his team strength is in the offensive backfield where he has returning quarterbacks Al Drumheller and Bill Robbins to join running backs Moses James and Allen Cox and fullback Bobbie Sicks.

Also returning is tight end Mike Farmer who doubles as a linebacker and Stanley Finch who plays safety and running back. Jay Daniel returns at center and Robbie Finch who plays safety and running back. Jay Daniel returns at center and Robbie Finch should show improvement at offe nsive guard and defensive tackle.

Newcomer Stanley James has been impressive in pre-season drills. James is a senior but has not played football prior to this season.

Others expected to lend depth to the Colonels are returning running back Lawrence Faulkner, tackle Doug Catlin and defensive back-tight end Randy Reaves.

Alex Cunningham, a defensive tackle, linebacker Rick Baulding, split end Jerry Hedrick and Andrew Merritt and linebacker Jerry Farmer are newcomers Head will be depending on throughout the season.

The second year mentor from William and Mary sees Rustburg as possibly upsetting Brookville and making a strong bid for the district title.

As for his Colonels, Head says, "We will improve on our 1-9 record if we stay healthy."

ncers Should Be Title Contenders

er - The pass is the key to score.

ery, head football James County High ll have been giving ine is the Seminole ion is considered ional experts to be quarterback in at a prime college

n competition last nderson completed 11 passes for 16 and over 1,500 enior is 6-3, 195 arrugged enough to hand handed out by

Henderson will Lee Campbell Hughes. Campbell ing rusher on the season, but is injury ing suffered injuries is sophomore and

Hughes, Vernon Mastrew Scott will be ampbell and Larry ttle for playing time

ays, a tall, talented ers the leading pass n last year's team and d to get the nod at ck while Greg Massie ably man the other

ker position is up for en Eddie Stewart, Thacker and Mike d battling for the ack.

ters show good size ensive line as three ers the inside shot at Greg Newman (6-0, ent Jones (6-3,210) Greg Thacker have ng good in practice

ters will probably e duties at center. Newman and Mike are both fine centers ers holding the edge,

Tom Berry

of squad so far. We have spirited practice sessions and their is a new air of confidence since we have returned to the Seminole District."

The Lancers should know early in the season if their title hopes can be realized. They open against Nelson County, play Rustburg the second game and clash with defending champion Brookville the third week of the campaign.

"Brookville is definately the team to beat for the title," says Berry. "They are the defending champs and they should be as good this year as they were last season.

"The district is stronger over-all than it was when we left it," Berry continued. "Nelson and Rustburg will make strong bids for the championship and there is better balance throughout than there has been in past years."

Our prediction is that Amherst will topple Brookville from the top of the Seminole District, but they will not go undefeated in district competition.

Berry says, "I think our defense is one of our strongest points right now, but at this stage of the season that's what I expected."

The 12-year head mentor is being assisted by former Appomattox player Karl Carter, Ernie Guill and Jim Procopio. Berry says, "I have been pleased with the progress

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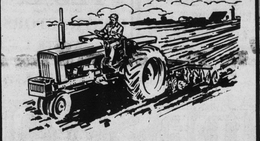

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